

Serial No.

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concluded

a processor for computing a postal or carrier rate for said item based on said weight signal.

REMARKS

Claims 21-25 are pending.

Claim 21 recites an electronic scale integrally formed within a flat-panel display. The scale includes a platform for supporting an item and a weighing unit. The weighing unit is mounted at least partially within a housing of said flat-panel display and includes a force transducer which outputs a weight signal indicative of a weight of said item when said item is placed on said platform.

Claim 22 recites an electronic scale integrally formed within a housing of a printer. The scale includes a platform for supporting an item and a weighing unit. The weighing unit is mounted at least partially within a housing of said flat-panel display and includes a force transducer which outputs a weight signal indicative of a weight of said item when said item is placed on said platform.

Claim 23 recites an electronic scale integrally formed within a housing of a CRT monitor. The scale includes a platform for supporting an item and a weighing unit. The weighing unit is mounted at least partially within a housing of said flat-panel display and includes a force transducer which outputs a weight signal indicative of a weight of said item when said item is placed on said platform.

Claim 24 recites an electronic scale integrally formed within a housing of a CPU of a personal computer. The scale includes a platform for supporting an item and a weighing unit.

Serial No.

The weighing unit is mounted at least partially within a housing of said flat-panel display and includes a force transducer which outputs a weight signal indicative of a weight of said item when said item is placed on said platform.

Claim 25 recites a system for computing a postal or carrier rate. The system includes a piece of office equipment selected from the group consisting of a flat-panel display unit, a CRT monitor, a CPU unit of a personal computer, and a printer; an electronic scale integrally formed within a housing of said piece of office equipment, said electronic scale including a platform for supporting an item and a weighing unit mounted at least partially within a housing of said flat-panel display, said weighing unit including a force transducer which outputs a weight signal indicative of a weight of said item when said item is placed on said platform; and a processor for computing a postal or carrier rate for said item based on said weight signal.

It is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that further amendments are necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, or if the Examiner believes that a personal interview would be advantageous in order to more expeditiously resolve any remaining issues, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with this application, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 23-1951 (Case No. 448002CA) and please credit

